

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

8 SEPTEMBER 2008

Present: County Councillor Berman (Chair);
Councillors Aubrey, Burley, Greening, Howells, Elgan
Morgan, Keith Parry, Piper, Dianne Rees and Walker

Apologies: Councillors Goodway and Walsh

5 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

6 : CONSTITUTION

The Committee at its last meeting had received an updating report concerning the ongoing officer review and had approved, subject to Council, proposed amendments to the Constitution in relation to notices of motion. The City and County Solicitor had also been authorised to amend the Constitution to reflect other proposed amendments.

The Committee had asked that an amended document with track changes be brought to this Committee.

The submitted document highlighted proposed changes to the Constitution which broadly fell under the following categories:

- Updating to reflect legislative changes
- Drafting improvements to enhance clarity and remove minor anomalies
- Correcting inconsistencies, inaccuracies and missions

The City and County Solicitor described what changes were proposed. In addition, a number of amendments had been made reflecting a change in titles.

The following amendments required the approval of Council:

Article 10 – Joint Arrangements
Add para 10.1.(c)

“The Executive may appoint Executive members to a Joint Committee. The Executive may also appoint non-Executive members to represent the Executive, and in doing so the non-Executive member shall report to the Executive not the Council. Such members need not reflect the political composition of the local authority as a whole”.

2. Council Procedure Rules

(a) Delete CPR 9 and replace with:-

“If an item of business has not been concluded within the period of time recommended by the Council’s Business Committee the Lord Mayor may ask the meeting to indicate their agreement by a majority vote of those present to extend the period of time to debate on the item”.

(The above paragraph be reviewed if any difficulties should arise)

(b) CPR 10.10.1

Delete ‘Tuesday’ and replace with ‘Thursday’.

(c) CPR 15

Delete the provision relating to the State of Cardiff debate.

(d) CPR 19

Delete and replace with:-

“All Councillors present during the whole or part of a meeting must accurately record their attendance on the record of attendance provided for the purpose”.

It was reported that proposed amendments to the Council’s Financial and Contracts procedure rules would be reported to this Committee’s next meeting.

3.

RESOLVED – That

- 1 the amendments referred to above be approved subject to the approval of Council;
- 2 proposed amendments to the Council's Financial and Contracts procedure rules be reported to the next meeting;
- 3 the delegation to the City and County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution be extended to include:
 - (a) amending typographical and minor drafting errors
 - (b) updating to reflect legislative changes and matters of record
 - (c) drafting improvements to enhance clarity and remove minor anomalies
- 4 any proposals to simplify procedure rules be referred to this Committee in the first instance.